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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

FEB
1630

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

DATE DISTR. 21 AUG 49

SUBJECT Changes in the Internal Structure of
the KPOe

NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCL.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INF
25X1XSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. The Central Committee of the KPOe has ordered a complete reorganization of its Party sections to be carried out by 1 July 1949. The former Sections are considered too unwieldy and will accordingly be split into new sections of more convenient size. Mediating between the new sections and the KPOe district headquarters (Bezirksleitungen), new organizations are to be created. Source had previously reported* that the new organizations were to be called Bereichsleitungen; he now indicates that the name has been changed to Gebietsleitungen and that they will contain two to four of the old sections.
2. Each new section will be headed by a section chief (Sektionsleiter) who will at the same time be consultant for Communist-infiltrated organizations (Massenreferent); the section chief will be assisted by an organizational head (Organisationsleiter) who will also concern himself with the organization of women in the section and with youth organizations. Each new section will include two or three election units (Wahlsprengel). Source points out that the Gebietsleitung resembles in its functions the old Unterbezirksleitung which was discarded in 1946 as impractical.
3. All KPOe Bezirksleitungen have been requested by the Central Committee to begin forming "Young Voter Committees". These committees will be designed to organize and activate young voters in the Freie Oesterreichische Jugend (FOeJ)

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and also to prepare lists of all potential young voters for the coming Austrian elections.** The lists will include the names of those who vote for the KPOe, those who will probably vote for the KPOe, those who might be successfully propagandized, and those who will vote against the KPOe. Leaders of the "Young Voter Committees" will visit all members of the FOeJ between the ages of 18 and 21 who were too young to vote in the last elections.

4. Reorganization of KPOe sections has caused confusion in the lower Party ranks. Many would-be candidates are intriguing to obtain jobs in the Gebietsleitungen, while many persons who hold jobs in the old sections are attempting to place friends or relations in positions of importance within the newly established sections. This confusion has greatly interfered with Party routine on the lower working levels, and in order to put an end to such interference, the Central Committee has ordered that the reorganization be completed by 1 July 1949; only after completion of the reorganization can the KPOe proceed with its election campaign.

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5. The Central Committee of the KPOe has ordered that existing KPOe sections be broken down into new sections not to include over 70 members. This reorganization must be completed by 15 June 1949.*** The purpose of the planned reorganization is to decrease the cumborness of the party apparatus and to engage more Communists in active work within the party. For example, it has already been decided by the KPOe Bezirksleitung of Vienna VII to split the Schottenfeld sections into four smaller sections which will bear the numbers 4, 5, 6, and 7. The section chiefs and leading functionaries of these particular sections are to be:

Section 4

Section Chief: Franz WURZ, VII, Westbahnstrasse 41
 Richard KRISTEK, VII, Seidengasse 44/XX
 Franz DOMANEGO, VII, Kandlgasse 19 - 21/6
 Josef ALLINA, VII, Urban-Loritzplatz 8
 Franziska ACHILLES, VII, Westbahnstrasse 39

Section 5

Section Chief: Edmund FEIGL, VII, Neubauguertel 28/8
 Adolf STRAHAMMER, VII, Kenyongasse 3/14
 Artur PICK, VII, Apolllogasse 12
 Susanne FOERSTER, VII, Schottenfeldgasse 19
 Alois MUENDEL, VII, Kaiserstrasse 30/6

Section 6

Section Chief: Franz PACHYM, VII, Mariahilferstrasse 114/9
 Eduard KANITZ, VII, Apolllogasse 9
 Anton SCHADAUER, VII, Zieglergasse 6
 Frau GIMPL, VII, Kaiserstrasse 12 - 14
 Konrad FRIEDL, VII, Schottenfeldgasse 40
 Nikolaus PLUT, VII, Zieglergasse 7

Section 7

Section Chief: Karl RIEDLER, VII, Schottenfeldgasse 40/15
 Luise RIEDLER, address not known
 Helmut REISS, VII, Zieglergasse 44/15
 Leopold LAUSCH, VII, Zieglergasse 38/1

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CHANGED TO: TS 8

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REC 77/1763

Date: 23/11/78

By: 018

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6. Since the beginning of the year the following new KPOe district offices have been established in Austria.

Lower Austria

Berndorf, Margaretenplatz 4

Traisental, Lilienfeld-Markt 74, telephone 4

The Bezirksleitung of St. Valentin has been moved to Langenhart, Brunhildstrasse 4, telephone 79.

Upper Austria

Kirchdorf a.d. Krems, Muellkreis-Urfahr, Muehlkreisbahnstrasse 3, telephone 23

Styria

Bad-Aussee, Meranplatz 39, telephone 126

Judenburg, Kaserngasse 4, telephone 183

Liesen, in the Post Office

Radkersburg

Kaernten

Klagenfurt, Kardinalplatz 8

Salzburg

Salzburg-Stadt, Flachgau, Ignaz-Harrerstrasse 12

Tirol

Lienz, in the Lienzerhof

Kitzbuehel, Hotel Roter Adler, P.O. Box 33

Burgenland

No new offices: Bezirksleitung Jennersdorf 50 has allegedly been discontinued.

7. Party officials, in discussing the planned reorganization of the KPOe, point to the necessity for modelling the KPOe on the Soviet Communist Party, i.e. creation of activist cadres and a pliable organization. The former KPOe district headquarters had twelve to fourteen officials, and a section included seven to ten officials. A section has up to now taken in about 400 residential buildings, drawing on 15,000 persons. The new sections will draw on about 100 residential buildings and 3,000 persons.

8. Party officials also declare that the reorganization is long overdue, but had to be delayed until the necessary cadres of activists were available.

9. In the future, KPOe district headquarters will consist of six officials: the chief (Obmann); a two-man secretariate; the district secretary; a specialist in factory affairs (Betriebsreferent); and a treasurer.

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One of the two members of the secretariate will also function as a specialist in educational problems (Bildungsreferent). In the new small section, there will be only three officials: the section chief; an organizational leader, who will also function as treasurer; and a specialist in educational problems (Bildungsreferent).****

10. The sites hitherto used for KPOe section headquarters are to be given up and handed over to the Communist-infiltred organizations for their use. The new sections will be required to meet in cafes and restaurants for normal meetings and discussions. Officials of the new sections are to meet in the private residence of one of the three section officials.

11. New section chiefs are to be given the following assignment:

- Political direction of the section.
- Exact information on the activity of his members and exact reports thereon.
- Contact with the corresponding section organization of the Socialist Party (SPOe); personal acquaintance with SPOe officials, foundation for collaboration with SPOe; establishment of a file of KPOe sympathizers.

* 25X1A

25X1A** Comment: [redacted] does not indicate any connection between these 25X1A committees and the Wahlsprengel of the preceding paragraph.

25X1A *** Comment: [redacted] differ on the date, it will be observed, 25X1A as well as on the number of members included in the new sections.

**** [redacted] seems to envisage only two officials.

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